

INDIANA EARLY LEARNING ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Family Engagement Workgroup

Meeting Minutes Summary

October 16, 2015

12:00 – 2:00pm

MEMBERS

Kevin Bain

Melanie Brizzi

Charlie Geier

Tammy Veselsky

Alonzo Weems

ADVISORY MEMBERS

John Burnett

Connie Sherman

Attendees: John Peirce, Mindy Bennett, Meghan Smith, Katie Herron, Jim Cohen, Monica DiOrio, Amanda Lopez; *On the phone:* Jen Drake, Jenni Mohr, Chris Whitmire

Key Topics Discussed:

Member Updates

- Mary Ann West, Indiana State Department of Health, is a new member!
- Members suggested adding the following new potential members/organizations: Maria Gonzalez-Blacketer Head Start Family Engagement Coordinator; Diane Poteet, Director of Children's Services at Child-Adult Resource Services, Inc.; a representative from the home visiting programs of Healthy Families Indiana, Nurse Family Partnerships and Early Head Start, and a representative from Indiana Department of Education.

ELAC Updates

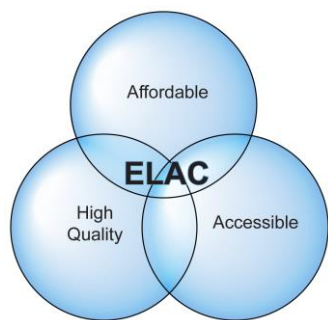
- ELAC Chairs have been meeting to identify a five-year plan that will be unveiled at the annual January kick-off meeting (Save the Date forthcoming).
- Work is underway to complete the ELAC Annual Report that is sent to the Governor and Indiana General Assembly. This will now be sent at the end of the year, instead of June, to better align with the General Assembly session calendar. As a result, workgroup members should think of recommendations that they would like to include in the Annual Report.

Family Engagement Toolkit Survey

- A draft of the survey has been posted to Wiggio for review by members.

Family Friendly Version of the Foundations

- Discussed the role of the workgroup: developing the full content or outlining what the family friendly version should entail?
- Workgroup members began to review the Scope of Work that John developed related to creating the family friendly version of the Foundations, but a deeper dive is needed.



INDIANA EARLY LEARNING ADVISORY COMMITTEE

MEMBERS

Kevin Bain

Melanie Brizzi

Charlie Geier

Tammy Veselsky

Alonzo Weems

ADVISORY MEMBERS

John Burnett

Connie Sherman

Home Visiting

- This task includes:
 1. Creating a definition of home visiting; and
 2. Addressing recommendation number 9 from the previous ELAC Annual Report on helping home visiting entities seamlessly transition to early learning programs;
- Work also needs to be done on broadening the scope of home visiting to include non-traditional services;
- This workgroup could create a “toolkit” of sorts with resources and guidelines related to home visiting.

Zero to Three Initiative

- The Office of Early Childhood and Out-of-School Learning is participating in a Zero to Three initiative to help states raise the importance of infant-toddler policy;
- The steering committee has five goals related to infant-toddler policies, and one includes family engagement.

Key Questions Raised:

1. Is ELAC looking at long-term goals (more than 2 years out)?
2. Is there a timeline for when programs are being encouraged to complete the family engagement self-assessment tool?
3. Does ELAC have the ability to push up specific tools or directions, instead of taking ideas, directions, and trends from schools and accepting them?
4. What is the specific directive to the workgroup about the family friendly version of the Foundations?
5. Is it feasible/allowed for this workgroup to seek out funding to complete the family friendly version of the Foundations?
6. Are there comprehensive ways that home visiting programs get together to share information?
7. What is ELAC doing to align kindergarten and pre-k?

Action Steps:

1. Member Recommendations: **John** offered to send the recommendation for Maria Gonzalez-Blacketer and Diane Poteet to Kevin Bain.
2. Family Engagement Toolkit Survey: **All members** are asked to give feedback on the updated Family Engagement Toolkit survey; **John** will send the updated survey to Melanie Brizzi and Beth Barrett for them to determine a timeline of disseminating the survey to EEEMG and OMY



INDIANA EARLY LEARNING ADVISORY COMMITTEE

programs.

3. **All members** are asked to review and send John input on the “ELAC Family Engagement Workgroup Scope of Work Creating a Family Friendly Version of the Indiana Early Learning Foundations” proposal on Wiggio.
4. John and Chris will reach out to Kent from Early Learning Indiana and Mary Ann West from MICEHV to coordinate and help frame the November meeting.
5. Wiggio Posts: **Meghan** offered to post the Ann E. Casey report on the Two-Generation Approach; **Amanda** offered to post the presentation from the Partnerships for Early Learners.

Next Meeting: November 20, 2015

Location: Early Learning Indiana Offices, 615 N. Alabama Street, Suite 300
Indianapolis, IN 46204

MEMBERS

Kevin Bain

Melanie Brizzi

Charlie Geier

Tammy Veselsky

Alonzo Weems

ADVISORY MEMBERS

John Burnett

Connie Sherman